

PHOTOGRAPHIC INTELLIGENCE MEMORANDUM

SOUTHEAST CHINA SITUATION

GP/I - 138

18 November 1955

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
Office of Research and Reports

PHOTOGRAPHIC INTELLIGENCE MEMORANDUM

SOUTHEAST CHINA SITUATION

This memorandum reports the existence of 3 new airfields, significant changes in existing airfields, defenses, and the transportation situation in S. E. China as observed in aerial photography flown between [REDACTED]

25X1D

AIRFIELDS

Lien Cheng (25°40'N - 116°40'E): This new airfield is located seven miles Southwest of the town of Lien Cheng. Preliminary grading is under way. A small village formerly located on the airfield site has been completely razed. The Wen-chuan River has been diverted away from the airfield site in three places by the use of canals. Truck activity in the area was heavy on [REDACTED] photography.

25X1D

Hui-an (25°02'N - 118°48'E): Photo coverage of [REDACTED] revealed a new airfield southeast of the town of Hui-an. Photo coverage of [REDACTED] showed six aircraft revetments under construction and personnel trenches dug on the airfield perimeter. A village located on the airfield site had been completely razed.

25X1D

Liang-hua-hsu (23°03'N - 114°35'E): This new airfield is located approximately 5.5 miles southwest of the town of Liang-hua-hsu. Photography of [REDACTED] revealed that construction had progressed to a point where the outline of the runway, taxiways and a portion of the dispersal area were apparent. The main runway will be approximately 6200 feet long when completed. No evidence of anti aircraft defense was visible.

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Ching-Yang (24°47'N - 118°35'E): This airfield now appears serviceable. As reported in GP/I - 139 dated [REDACTED] there has been a significant

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change in the heavy AA defenses. The original four 4 gun heavy AA batteries have been replaced by four 8 gun heavy AA batteries and, in addition, 2 and probably 4 more 8 gun heavy AA batteries have been located. At least 5 and probably all of these batteries are accompanied with whiff radar.

A new barracks area, consisting of 12 large, 100' x 40' bldgs. and several smaller buildings, is under construction on the north side of the road, 7000' west of the runway, adjacent to the P. O. L. storage area.

Lang-chi (24°33'N - 117°39'E): This airfield now appears serviceable. There are no significant changes in the AA defenses. The field is now equipped with 2 hangers and shops, in addition to the previously reported P. O. L., ammunition storage, and other facilities. The buildings in the administrative and barracks area located 5500' south of the west end of the runway appear near completion.

Szatow Northeast (23°26'N - 116°46'E): The runway, taxiways and parking areas appear completed and serviceable. The installation of underground power and/or communication lines are still in progress, although the runway lights appear to be completely installed and operable.

A probable ammunition storage area, consisting of 3 covered bunkers measuring 90' x 90', 55' x 65', and 40' x 65', and three small buildings ranging in size from [REDACTED] to 45' x 20', is located approximately 1000 yards northwest of the southwest end of the runway.

Nan-tai (26°00'N - 119°19'E): This airfield appears serviceable. There is no significant change in AA defenses or facilities.

Lang-tien (25°34'N - 119°28'E): Small, white rectangular objects still appear to be scattered on the black surface of the runway. This condition has not changed since [REDACTED]. The serviceability of this runway could not be ascertained. A new barracks area, consisting of 27 permanent-type

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buildings, appears nearing completion NNE of the runway. Two new 6 gun heavy AA batteries have been added to the defenses of this airfield. One battery is located 1000 yards NNE of the airfield and the other is located 2000 yards SE of the airfield. Associated with each battery is a whiff radar, a range-height finder and a Puazo gun director.

Defenses

Pehling Peninsula: An increase in military activity was noted. Trenches and defensive positions have been increased and a large number of barrack type and storage type buildings have been added to those already in the Huang-chi area. There are two probable radar sites on the tip of the Pehling Peninsula.

Amoy: Increased military activity was noted in the Wei-tou Peninsula area. One mile of first-class road has been constructed from the road junction near Pu-tung to two strong points. Several trucks and tents were located near these strong points on photography of [REDACTED]

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In the Hung-tso area (24°22'N - 118°08'E) additional military activity was detected. Three turn-around firing circles for artillery have been constructed. One circle had an artillery piece in place. Also in the area were one unoccupied and one occupied 4 gun artillery position and two occupied 4 gun medium anti-aircraft batteries.

Foochow: Located 4.6 miles east of Foochow, near the village of Fou-tou was an artillery park that contained 12 field artillery pieces and six heavy trucks.

There has been a marked change in the anti-aircraft defenses in and around the city of Foochow. Many of the positions reported in GP/I - 89 dated [REDACTED] are now unoccupied.

Transportation

Roads and Railroads: A detailed description of the road and railroad situation

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of the southeast China area is given in GP/I - 133 dated 15 November 1955.

Shipping: Activity at Ma Wei (26°09'N - 119°26'E) appeared to be light.

The patrol craft reported in GP/I - 126 were absent but on [REDACTED] one 315' cargo type ship was anchored off the old P. O. L. area opposite Ma Wei.

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No other shipping activity was noted.

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